

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01462 251728Z

46

ACTION PC-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 RSC-01 /013 W

----- 105021

P 251515Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5930

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 1462

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, GB, US

SUBJ: PC PROGRAM GABON

DEPARTMENT PASS PEACE CORPS

REF: LETTER FROM DIGGS TO COUNTRYMAN NOVEMBER 15

1. VERY CONCERNED BY LATEST SELF-HELP NEWS COMMUNICATED TO US IN REF LETTER. CURRENT U.S. SIMPLIFIED DESIGN STILL RUNS TO ABOUT DOLS 25,000 PER SITE WHICH REQUIRES MINIMUM OF DOLS 75,000 (FOR TWO SCHOOLS PLUS ORIGINAL PILOT SCHOOL). AS WE SAVED DOLS 29,000 FROM FY 74, WE WOULD STILL NEED DOLS 46,000 TO COMPLETE TWO BUSH SCHOOLS TO WHICH WE ARE COMMITTED. GABONESE DESIGN UNLIKELY TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER IN COST. WITH BEST EFFORTS AT THIS END, WE COULD REDUCE THIS FIGURE FROM 46 TO DOLS 40,000. HAVING RECEIVED DOLS 20,000 FOR FIRST AND SECOND QUARTER, WE STILL NEED ABSOLUTE MINIMUM OF DOLS 20,000 FOR REMAINDER FY 75 TO COMPLETE TWO SCHOOLS, ONE AT LASTOURSVILLE AND ONE AT MAVANGA, CURRENTLY SCHEDULED. THIS WOULD MEAN THAT WE WERE RECEIVING SAME AMOUNT SELF-HELP IN FY 75 AS IN FY 74 EVEN THOUGH WE VOLUNTARILY UNDERTOOK PC COMMITMENT DEPENDENT ON SELF-HELP FINANCING.

2. POSSIBILITY OF USING PC VOLUNTEERS FOR OTHER TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK MINIMAL. EMBASSY AND PCD CONCUR IN ASSESSMENT OF PC WASHINGTON THAT CHANGE OF ACTIVITY WOULD DEFINITELY DAMAGE RESTORED IMAGE OF PC VIS-A-VIS GOG.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LIBREV 01462 251728Z

3. WILL ALREADY BE SEVERE BLOW (WHICH WE CAN SURVIVE)
WHEN SELF-HELP FUNDS VANISH IN FY 76 AND GOG TOLD THEY
CAN CONTINUE SCHOOL BUILDING PROGRAM WITH PC VOLUNTEERS IF
GOG PAYS FOR ALL MATERIALS. BELIEVE THAT IF WE HAVE BUILT
A MINIMUM OF TWO SCHOOLS IN THE BUSH DURING FY 75 AND DONE
GOOD JOB, GOG WILL BE SUFFICIENTLY IMPRESSED TO WANT TO
CONTINUE PROGRAM EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE TO PICK UP TAB ON
WHAT THEY WERE ORIGINALLY LED TO BELIEVE BY US WOULD BE OUR
CONTRIBUTION. IF ON OTHER HAND WE BUILD ONLY ONE SCHOOL
AT LASTOURSVILLE BEFORE PULLING OUT THE RUG, WE WILL QUITE
UNDERSTANDABLY BE ACCUSED OF BAD FAITH AND CREATE CON-
SIDERABLE ILL-WILL, ALL OUT OF PROPORTION TO THE EXTRA
DOLS 20,000 NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF FY 75.

4. INASMUCH AS THERE IS ALWAYS A LAG BETWEEN INITIAL
STUDY OF PROJECTS AND ACTUAL DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS, DO
NOT SEE WHY GUINEA-BISSAU, MOZAMBIQUE AND BURUNDI COULD
NOT WAIT UNTIL JULY 1 FOR THEIR FUNDS. AS FOR ZAIRE, ONE
WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT THE VAST AMOUNT OF DIRECT
BILATERAL AID THAT COUNTRY HAS BEEN RECEIVING OVER THE
PAST TEN YEARS AT A TIME NUMEROUS SMALL COUNTRIES (LIKE
GABON) HAVE BEEN RECEIVING NO BILATERAL AID WOULD RENDER
ZAIRE'S CLAIM ON LIMITED SSH FUNDS QUESTIONABLE.

5. WITH AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM OF DOLS 20,000 MORE FOR GABON
IN FY 75 AND BY USING ALL 14 VOLUNTEERS TO BUILD ONE
SCHOOL AT A TIME (WHEN THEY COULD BUILD TWO AT A TIME)
WE CAN STRETCH OUR FUNDS AND OUR ACTIVITIES THROUGH
JUNE 75. ANYTHING LESS WOULD CAUSE THE PC PROGRAM HERE
MAJOR DIFFICULTY AT TIME GOG HAS GONE ALL OUT TO MAKE IT
A SUCCESS.
MCKESSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LIBREV01462
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740341-0769
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741115/aaaaamnf.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PC
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LETTER FROM DIGGS TO COUNTRYMAN NOVE, MBER 15
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PC PROGRAM GABON DEPARTMENT PASS PEACE CORPS
TAGS: EAID, GB, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005